

(b) Additional products and procedures may be made subject to this subpart by agreement of the parties.

#### **§ 26.34 Regulatory authorities.**

The regulatory authorities shall have the responsibility of implementing the provisions of this subpart, including the designation and monitoring of conformity assessment bodies (CAB's). Regulatory authorities will be specified in Appendix C of this subpart. Each party will promptly notify the other party in writing of any change in the regulatory authority for a country.

#### **§ 26.35 Length and purpose of transition period.**

There will be a 3-year transition period immediately following the date described in § 26.80(a). During the transition period, the parties will engage in confidence-building activities for the purpose of obtaining sufficient evidence to make determinations concerning the equivalence of conformity assessment bodies (CAB's) of the other party with respect to the ability to perform quality system and product evaluations or other reviews resulting in reports to be exchanged under this subpart.

#### **§ 26.36 Listing of CAB's.**

Each party shall designate conformity assessment bodies (CAB's) to participate in confidence building activities by transmitting to the other party a list of CAB's which meet the criteria for technical competence and independence, as identified in Appendix A of this subpart. The list shall be accompanied by supporting evidence. Designated CAB's will be listed in Appendix D of this subpart for participation in the confidence building activities once confirmed by the importing party. Nonconfirmation would have to be justified based on documented evidence.

#### **§ 26.37 Confidence building activities.**

(a) At the beginning of the transitional period, the Joint Sectoral Group will establish a joint confidence building program calculated to provide sufficient evidence of the capabilities of the designated conformity assessment bodies (CAB's) to perform quality sys-

tem or product evaluations to the specifications of the parties.

(b) The joint confidence building program should include the following actions and activities:

(1) Seminars designed to inform the parties and CAB's about each party's regulatory system, procedures, and requirements;

(2) Workshops designed to provide the parties with information regarding requirements and procedures for the designation and surveillance of CAB's;

(3) Exchange of information about reports prepared during the transition period;

(4) Joint training exercises; and

(5) Observed inspections.

(c) During the transition period, any significant problem that is identified with a CAB may be the subject of cooperative activities, as resources allow and as agreed to by the regulatory authorities, aimed at resolving the problem.

(d) Both parties will exercise good faith efforts to complete the confidence building activities as expeditiously as possible to the extent that the resources of the parties allow.

(e) Both the parties will each prepare annual progress reports which will describe the confidence building activities undertaken during each year of the transition period. The form and content of the reports will be determined by the parties through the Joint Sectoral Committee.

#### **§ 26.38 Other transition period activities.**

(a) During the transition period, the parties will jointly determine the necessary information which must be present in quality system and product evaluation reports.

(b) The parties will jointly develop a notification and alert system to be used in case of defects, recalls, and other problems concerning product quality that could necessitate additional actions (e.g., inspections by the parties of the importing country) or suspension of the distribution of the product.

#### **§ 26.39 Equivalence assessment.**

(a) In the final 6 months of the transition period, the parties shall proceed